

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An encoder for compressing image information includes a memory and processor. The memory stores a predefined compression code corresponding to white image data or black image data. The processor receives a first sequence of characters representing an image, reads a first character in the sequence. If it is determined that the read character represents the one of the white or black image data, the processor reads one or more characters occurring immediately subsequent to the first character in the sequence of characters. If it is determined that the read one or more characters match the read first character, the processor generates a second sequence of characters, including the stored predefined compression code, representing the matching one or more characters.